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Korea

KOREA: Vishinsky Challenges Atrocity Charges in U.N.

The introduction at the United Nations of U.S. charges of Communist atrocities in Korea occasions sharp denunciation of these American "fabrications." Vishinsky's 11 November speech repeats PRAVDA's charge of the previous week that the U.S. allegations are based on Colonel Hanley's report of November 1951 and are designed to frustrate a Korean settlement, foment war hysteria and forestall the reduction of international tensions. This speech, broadcast 36 times, accounts for three-fourths of total attention to Korea during the first week under review. At the same time Moscow devotes only six broadcasts to the bacterial-warfare issue; five of these carry the statement by International Scientific Commission member Dr. Andreen that U.S. use of BW had been established before hearing the testimony of captured American fliers. The use of this statement, together with the soft-pedaling of the nineteen new BW depositions widely broadcast by Peking, suggests a desire to avoid meeting the issue of the authenticity of the U.S. airmen's depositions. There has been no atrocity comment from Moscow since 16 November.

Moscow comment has not echoed Vishinsky's 13 November call for U.N. "intervention" at Panmunjom to break the deadlock. The statement, coming at a time when the Chinese and Koreans had agreed to simultaneous discussion of agenda topics, was contained in the Soviet delegate's speech on disarmament. This apparent lack of coordination continues in Moscow's failure to discuss the Communist proposal of 17 November calling for a political conference of two equal sides and dropping demands for a roundtable conference. This proposal by the Chinese-Korean side is a virtual repetition of the Communist position advanced by Chou En-lai in his 13 September note to the United Nations.

Moscow has not commented on the Kim Il Sung visit to Peking nor on the 23 November Sino-Korean pact, except for a brief TASS item on 12 November announcing the arrival of Kim in Peking. Official accounts of the Kim-Chou talks list the Soviet charge in Peking as among those taking part.

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